

The Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 6, Line 2 as follows:

FIGURE 1 illustrates an example system 10 for providing visualization of market offers using a multi-dimensional display that includes geometrically-shaped icons. System 10 may include one or more buyers 12, one or more sellers 14, and at least one electronic marketplace 16 associated with a web site or other environment accessible to buyers 12 and sellers 14. In general, electronic marketplace 16 may receive bids from buyers 12 and asks from sellers 14, match bids and asks where appropriate, and initiate transactions between buyers 12 and sellers 14 where appropriate. Electronic marketplace 16 may receive a query in connection with the discovery phase of an electronic commerce transaction and may thereafter search one or more databases to return search results responsive to ~~these~~ this query. A bid may be matched with an ask, for example, where the corresponding bid price is greater than or substantially equal to the corresponding ask price, and matching a bid with an ask may result in a transaction being initiated between the correspond buyer 12 and seller 14. A bid may include an offer to buy, and an ask may include an offer to sell. Such offers may include a number of variables, and each offer may specify a value for one or more of these variables. For example, a bid may specify a bid price, a bid quantity, a delivery time, and values for any other suitable variables. The present invention contemplates any suitable offers with any suitable variables. Reference to an “offer” may include a bid, an ask, or either, where appropriate.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 6, Line 21 as follows:

Although certain example markets are described herein, the present invention contemplates any suitable market including one or more offers from one or more buyers 12 and one or more sellers 14. For example, the present invention may provide visualization of a number of offers in an auction-based market, an exchange-based market, a Request for ~~Comment~~ Quote (RFQ) -based market, or any other suitable market. Additionally, the present invention may provide visualization of a number of offers in a market that is part of a larger market including a number of associated markets. Although buyers 12 and sellers 14 are described as separate entities, a buyer 12 in one transaction may be a seller 14 in another

transaction, and vice versa. Moreover, reference to a “buyer” or a “seller” may include a person, a computer system having one or more computers, an enterprise, or any other buying or selling entity, as appropriate. For example, a buyer 12 may include a computer programmed to autonomously identify a need for an item, search for that item, and buy that item upon identifying a suitable seller. Although buying and selling are described herein, the present invention contemplates any appropriate market transaction. Items may include raw materials, component parts, products, or any other tangible or intangible things that may be the subject of a transaction between a buyer 12 and a seller 14, and a single item may include one or more other items. Additionally, items may include lots, blocks, bundles, bushels, or other suitable units of one or more individual items, where appropriate. For example, capacitors may be bought and sold in indivisible units of five hundred capacitors, instead of one capacitor at a time.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 17, Line 27 as follows:

Although the present invention has been described with several embodiments, a plethora of changes, substitutions, variations, alterations, and modifications may be suggested to one skilled in the art, and it is intended that the invention may encompass all such changes, substitutions, variations, alterations, and modifications ~~fall~~ falling within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.